

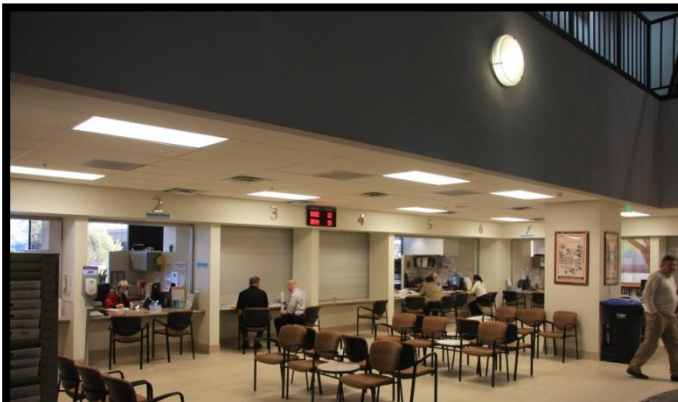


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NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE NEWS UPDATE



The city's new Development Services Center offers one-stop assistance for businesses at 333 N. Rancho Drive. Photo: S. Sheftell

DSC Offers One-Stop Shop Service

In mid-July, **Mayor Carolyn G. Goodman**, **Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow** and other dignitaries celebrated the establishment of the new city of Las Vegas Development Services Center (DSC). The building is located at 333 N. Rancho Drive near I-95.

The facilities include a new help desk where staff will assist customers with directions and general information on how to accomplish what they need within the DSC.

Earlier this year, several city departments relocated to the building, providing a "one-stop shop" for the development community. The Planning Department, Building & Safety Department, Land Development, City Engineer, Fire Prevention, Public Works and Operations & Maintenance administrations are all located in the building. Business Licensing will be rounding out the services offered when this division moves into the building later this year. Regular hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, excluding holidays.

"We already have seen significant customer service improvements," said Mayor Goodman, "including same-day counter reviews of small projects and expedited reviews for projects that are limited in scope. Since these same-day review programs began in March 2011, all the requests were completed without delay."

Until the move to the DSC, the different functions relating to the development community had been spread over several city facilities, primarily at a facility located on Fourth Street. The city is saving \$1.2 million annually now that employees have moved out of that building to the new Development Services Center. This includes the monthly lease for the building, parking lot and taxes.

For more information on the Development Services Center, call 702.229.6251 or go online to www.lasvegasnevada.gov/dsc.



Anthony's Pizza is one of several new retail establishments slated to open soon in the downtown area. Photo: Julie Ray

New Retail Coming to Downtown

A groundbreaking for new first-floor retail at **321 Casino Center**, immediately across from the downtown courthouse, was held early this summer. This retail will be located on the ground floor of the **Lewis Avenue Parking Garage**. Included in the retail line-up is **Moxie Java** coffee shop and internet café, a franchise that is making a big push to start opening locations on the west coast, **Anthony's Pizza** and **Casa Rosa Mexican fare**. Kevin Plencner of Oak Brook Realty & Investments reports that there will be three more spaces in a "food court," plus law offices and more.

Scheduled to open in late spring or early summer 2012 is an almost 6,000-square-foot **Denny's** restaurant at Neonopolis. The new Denny's location, selected due to its proximity to the *Fremont Street Experience* canopy, will include space formerly occupied by a sushi restaurant, as well as some additional area behind it. Major renovations will be made to this space.

FEEDback Positive on New Downtown Farmer's Market

FEEDback from those attending the opening of the new FEED (Fremont East Entertainment District) farmer's market has been positive. The farmer's market will be held every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. within the interior shade of the **Azul** building located at 115 N. Seventh St. This market is free and open to public. Free parking is also provided at the nearby El Cortez garage; in addition, there are metered parking spaces in front of Azul. Produce on-hand includes locally grown vegetables and fruits, herbs, tea, coffee and honey. Gift items, such as lavender sachets, are offered for sale as well. For further information and to participate as a vendor, contact info@projectdinnertable.com.



A new farmer's market is being held every Thursday in the Fremont East Entertainment District (FEED). Photo: June Johns



Business Development Center, sponsored by the city's Redevelopment Agency.
Photo: Julie Ray

Small Businesses Take Advantage of Development Center Services

Despite the current economic malaise, a variety of newly minted entrepreneurs have been willing to take the plunge and invest in new businesses. Several of these area small business owner-operators are taking advantage of the below-market office rates, support services and mentoring assistance offered at the Urban Chamber of Commerce Business Development Center. The center is sponsored by the city of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency.

Business startups that have recently relocated to the development center: **Suzanne Samlowski** of the biomedical firm **Truecells, LLC**; magazine publisher **Wendy Welch**, who founded **Connect Welch Publishing**; **Shaundell Newsome** of **Newsome Marketing**; **Susan Johnson**, owner of the construction firm **Desert Industries** and home health care providers **Harris & Williams**.

Located at 1951 Stella Lake St. in West Las Vegas, the Business Development Center was designed "to help startups and provide assistance to existing companies so that they will become fully functioning independent enterprises and create new jobs," **Ward 5 Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow** explained.

Newsome Marketing currently occupies office facilities in the center, while Truecells, LLC; Desert Industries and Harris & Williams make use of light industrial space. Connect Welsh Publishing is considered a "virtual tenant," which means they take advantage of the services, but do not occupy physical space at the center.

In addition to below-market office or light industrial space, a number of services and amenities are supplied as part of the business development center's turn-key operation. These include: all utilities and office furnishings, high speed Internet and Wi-Fi connection, meeting facilities and business development training/advisors.

For further information, visit www.urbanchamber.org or contact Summer Rabb at 702.648.6222.

Capturing Downtown!

August 15 is the deadline to submit your potentially prize-winning photos for the **Capture DOWNTOWN!** photo competition. Professional and amateur photographers older than 21 are invited

to participate in this photography competition sponsored by the **city of Las Vegas**, the **Downtown Las Vegas Alliance**, **Symphony Park** and the **Las Vegas Review-Journal**. There will be first-, second- and third-place winners in each of three categories:

- Everyday life/work/play in downtown
- Stars: interesting people who live/work downtown
- Icons: including downtown landmarks, neon signs and historic buildings

A People's Choice Award will also be given, with voting Sept. 1 – 22 at lvvj.com. Prizes include gift certificates from downtown retailers and hotels, merchandise and more. Submit entries and obtain further information at: downtownlasvegasalliance.com/capturedowntown.

Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency

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